

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

OMB-01 AID-20 RSR-01 /124 W
----- 002692

R 080900 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7947

INFO AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINS, PO

SUBJ: ANP WINDS UP NATIONAL CONGRESS

REF: LISBON 1633

1. SUMMARY: PORTUGAL'S OFFICIAL POLITICAL MOVEMENT, ACCAO NACIONAL POPULAR (ANP), WOUND UP A FOUR- DAY NATIONAL CONGRESS MAY 6. CONGRESS SPEECHES AND RESOLUTIONS CONSTITUTE REAFFIRMATION OF VIRTUALLY ALL CURRENT GOP POLICIES, WHILE REGISTERING SOME IMPATIENCE WITH SPEED AND EXTENSION OF THEIR APPLICATION. ANP SOUGHT TO DEFINE ITSELF, WITH UNCLEAR RESULT. ANP CENTRAL COMMITTEE WAS RESHAPED; MAY PROMINENT MEMBERS WERE DROPPED IN FAVOR OF POLITICAL UNKNOWNNS, BUT CENTRAL COMMITTEE HAS RETAINED OR STRENGTHENED ITS CAETANO MOLD. CONGRESS REAFFIRMED COMMITMENT TO CORPORATIST IDEOLOGY AND INSTITUTIONS, WHILE REVEALING CONCERN OVER THEIR FAILURE TO APPEAL TO YOUTH. GOP'S AFRICAN POLICIES LAVISHLY SUPPORTED. CLOSING ADDRESS BY PRIME MINISTER

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CAETANO ANSWERED MANY POINTS RAISED BY OPPOSITIONISTS
AT AVEIRO CONGRESS, ESCALATING POLITICAL DEBATE IN
ADVANCE OF FALL ELECTIONS. END SUMMARY

2. GOVERNMENT- SPONSORED POLITICAL MOVEMENT ANP CON-
CLUDED FOUR- DAY NATIONAL CONGRESS AT TOMAR MAY 6.
SECURITY MEASURES WERE GRADUALLY INCREASED AS CONGRESS
PROGRESSED, PERHAPS IN RESPONSE TO RUMORED BOMB SCARE.
BY CLOSING DAY POLICE AND MILITARY VIRTUALLY EVERYWHERE,
WITH POLICE CHECKING VEHICLES ENTERING TOMAR AND INDI-
VIDUALS APPROACHING CONGRESS SITE.

3. MAY 4 AND 5 WERE DEVOTED TO WORKSHOP SESSIONS ON
16 THEMES. MANY THEMES EVOKED LITTLE INTEREST AND
WORKSHOPS CLOSED EARLY. MOST ANIMATED WORKSHOPS WERE
THOSE ON AGRICULTURE, POLITICAL DOCTRINE AND EDUCATION.
WORKSHOPS TRIED TO DIGEST 300 PAPERS SUBMITTED IN ADVANCE
AND GROUND OUT 92 RESOLUTIONS, ALL OF WHICH WERE
UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED AT CLOSING SESSION.

4. SOME RESOLUTIONS ARE VERBATIM EXCERPTS FROM MINISTERS'
SPEECHES, BUT MOST ARE ORIGINAL. SEVERAL RESOLUTIONS
REITERATE FORCEFUL COMMITMENT TO MAINTAIN OVERSEAS
PROVINCES AS PARTS OF PORTUGAL, WHILE CALLING FOR FASTER
INSTITUTIONAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OVERSEAS.
CONGRESS ALSO RESOLVED THAT:

- A) " SOCIAL CORPORATE STATE" IS THE MOST APPROPRIATE
POLITICAL SYSTEM FOR PORTUGAL;
- B) GOVERNMENT'S " REFORM POLICIES" MERIT CONFIDENCE
AND REQUIRE A " STRONG ACTIVE STATE;"
- C) EDUCATIONAL REFORM SHOULD CONTINUE;
- D) THE STATE SHOULD DECENTRALIZE ADMINISTRATIVE
FUNCTIONS;
- E) GOP SHOULD INSURE THAT HIGHER PERCENTAGE OF " NATIVES"
OF OVERSEAS PROVINCES BE BROUGHT INTO OVERSEAS ADMINIS-
TRATION, NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, AND CORPORATE CHAMBER;
- F) OVERSEAS PROVINCES HAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR OWN
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT;
- G) FRUITS OF DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE DIVIDED MORE JUSTLY;
- H) REMAINING ILLITERACY MUST BE STAMPED OUT ;
- I) ALL PORTUGUESE SHOULD BE COVERED BY RETIREMENT
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SCHEMES;

J) GOP SHOULD UPGRADE EFFORTS TO INCULCATE " CHARACTER
FORMATION, LOVE OF COUNTRY AND AN UNDERSTANDING OF
PORTUGAL'S PRESENCE IN THE WORLD" AMONG YOUTH.
SEVERAL RESOLUTIONS REFLECTED NEW CONCERN FOR FEMINIST
AND ENVIRONMENTALIST ISSUES.

5. ANP GRAPPLED WITH IDENTITY CRISIS, WITH APPARENT FINAL CONSENSUS THAT IT SHOULD REMAIN NON- PARTISAN, GRASS ROOT " CIVIC ASSOCIATION." OPEN TO ALL WHO SEEK POLITICAL INVOLVEMENT. ANP RESOLVED TO REMEDY ITS ALIENATION FROM YOUNG PEOPLE AND WORKING CLASS, ASSUME ROLE AS MENTOR OF ASPIRING POLITICIANS, AND SPEAK OUT ON MAJOR ISSUES.

6. PURSUANT TO ANP STATUTES, 8 OF 16 CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS WERE REPLACED. PRIME MINISTER CAETANO TOLD CONGRESS THAT 8 PERSONS DROPPED WERE SELECTED BY DRAW AND THAT LIST OF 8 CANDIDATES TO REPLACE THEM HAD BEEN COMPILED BY ANP DISTRICT AND PROVINCE CHIEFS. WELL-INFORMED SOURCES, HOWEVER, SAY CAETANO HIMSELF REMODELED CENTRAL COMMITTEE. EIGHT DEPARTED INCLUDED AFONSO QUEIRO, RIGHTWING GOVERNMENT CRITIC KICKED UPSTAIRS TO ADVISORY BOARD; LONG- TIME POLITICAL LEADER AND DEPUTY CAMILO MENDONCA, WHO REPORTEDLY CONSIDERING POLITICAL RETIREMENT; ANGOLA GOVGEN SANTOS E CASTRO: PROMINENT DEPUTIES ALMEIDA COTTA AND ALMEIDA GARRETT; AND STATE SECRETARIES MOREIRA BAPTISTA, HERMES DOS SANTOS AND SILVA PINTO. THESE MEN MAY HAVE BEEN DROPPED BECAUSE THEY WERE TROUBLESOME (MENDONCA, GARRETT, QUEIRO) ABSENT (SANTOS E CASTRO) OR BUSY (SANTOS E CASTRO AND SECRETARIES). NEW FACES ON COMMITTEE VIRTUALLY ALL POLITICAL UNKNOWNNS, ALTHOUGH CIVIL GOVERNOR OF AVEIRO, VALE GUIMARAES, WAS SELECTED, POSSIBLY AS REWARD FOR HIS HANDLING OF AVEIRO OPPOSITIONIST CONGRESS. POLITICAL SOURCES REPORT NEW MEMBERS VIRTUALLY ONE- FOR- ONE IDEOLOGICAL REPLACEMENTS FOR DEPARTING MEMBERS, AND THAT ALL ARE CAETANO LOYALISTS.

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

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R 080900 Z MAY 73
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7948
INFO AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES
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7. CONGRESS OPERATED SMOOTHLY, AND WAS OCCASION OF UNPRECEDENTED ELBOW- RUBBING BY GOP OFFICIALS, NEWSMEN, AND ORDINARY DELEGATES. CONGRESS ORGANIZERS, ANP EXEC. COMMITTEE HEAD ELMANO ALVES AND SECSTATE FOR LABOR SILVA PINTO, MET DAILY WITH PRESS AND RESPONDED TO TOUGH QUESTIONS IN GENIAL MANNER. SEVERAL MINISTERS ALSO HAD PRESS CONFERENCES, AND PRESS WAS WELCOME AT SOME, BUT NOT ALL, WORKSHOPS (INTERIOR MINISTER RAPAZOTE THREW REPORTERS OUT OF HIS WORKSHOP ON LOCAL ADMINISTRATION). OBSERVERS COMMENTED ON FACT THAT PUBLIC ISSUES WERE BEING DISCUSSED BY LARGE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE, MAJOR CHANGE FROM SALAZAR ERA.

8. PRESS SOURCES REPORT MANY IN ANP UNHAPPY IN MANNER IN WHICH ALVES AND SILVA PINTO ARRANGED CONGRESS. HOWEVER, WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE OF DELEGATE DISSATISFACTION.

9. OWN PRESENT CONGRESS EMBLEM FORMS UNMISTAKABLE SWASTIKA. PM CAETANO, ACCORDING TO CONGRESS SECRETARIAT SOURCE, HIT CEILING WHEN HE ARRIVED AT CONGRESS AND SAW EMBLEM,
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FORBIDDING ITS FURTHER DISTRIBUTION AND ORDERING THAT WHEREVER POSSIBLE SWASTIKA BE COVERED WITH PHOTOGRAPH.

10. CONGRESS ENDED WITH MORALE- BOOSTING SPEECH BY CAETANO, IN WHICH PRIME MINISTER LASHED BACK AT HIS OPPOSITIONIST CRITICS (SEPTEL).

11. COMMENT: CONGRESS STEERED CLEAR OF SOME TOUGH ISSUES (CENSORSHIP, MILITARY AFFAIRS, CIVIL LIBERTIES) BUT TACKLED OTHERS (EMIGRATION, AGRICULTURAL DECLINE , UNIVERSITY TURBULENCE). DISCUSSION WAS STRICTLY IN-HOUSE, HOWEVER, WITH NO SUGGESTION THAT GOP MIGHT BE ON WRONG TRACK IN ANY FIELD: CRITICS CALLED FOR " MORE" AND " BETTER," BUT NOT " DIFFERENT." CAETANO EMERGED MASTER OF HIS HOUSEHOLD. PRESIDENT THOMAZ DID NOT ATTEND CONGRESS BUT SENT BRIEF GREETING. NO PICTURES OF SALAZAR ON HAND, NOR WAS THERE ANY MENTION OF SALAZAR IN ANY MAJOR SPEECH. ABSENCE OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND WORKERS SEEMED GENUINELY TO SURPRISE AND ALARM MANY DELEGATES. NO SUBSTANTIAL POLICY OR IDEOLOGICAL CHANGES APPEAR ON HORIZON AS RESULT OF CONGRESS, BUT GOVERNMENT FORCES PROBABLY SOMEWHAT STRENGTHENED BY

IMPROVED ORGANIZATION AND INCREASED MORALE.
POST

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LOURENCO MARQUES
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